

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for an OBEX (object-exchange) client to discover an accessible OBEX object-exchange resource on a network incorporating routable communications protocols, the method comprising:
 - listening on a multicast channel provided according to a routable network communications protocol for ~~an object-exchange resource~~ identification advertisement from an OBEX device;
 - receiving at least one advertisement on the multicast channel identifying an accessible OBEX object-exchange resource;
 - storing information from the received advertisement; and
 - using the stored information to address the identified OBEX device ~~object-exchange resource~~.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the multicast channel is carried on a well-known port provided according to the routable network communications protocol.

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the received ~~object-exchange resource~~ identification advertisement is carried according to a protocol in the set consisting of: the Simple Service Discovery Protocol and the Service Location Protocol.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the received ~~object-exchange resource~~ identification advertisement contains information expressed according to an extensible markup language definition.

5. (Currently Amended) The method claim 1 wherein the identified accessible OBEX object-exchange resource is in the group: an OBEX object-exchange server, an OBEX object-exchange service, and a second OBEX object-exchange client.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the identified accessible OBEX object-exchange resource is an OBEX object-exchange server and the received OBEX object-exchange resource identification advertisement

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lists OBEX object-exchange services provided by the OBEX object-exchange server.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the identified accessible OBEX ~~object-exchange~~ resource is an OBEX ~~object-exchange~~ service in the group: inbox service, file browser, and synchronization service.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
applying a filter to the at least one received advertisement and discarding advertisements that do not satisfy criteria of the filter.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein at least one criterion of the filter is in the group: Globally Unique Identifier, geographical location, network hop count from the identified accessible OBEX ~~object-exchange~~ resource to the OBEX ~~object-exchange~~ client, address mask, and domain name.

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10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
making a list of the identified accessible OBEX object-exchange resources.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
formulating a discovery request asking OBEX object-exchange resources to identify themselves; and
sending the discovery request over the multicast channel.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the discover request specifies a property desired in responsive OBEX object-exchange resources.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the desired property is expressed according to an extensible markup language definition.

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14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the scope of dispersal of the discovery request is expanded by bridging the discovery request from one network to another network.

15. (Original) The method claim 11 wherein the scope of dispersal of the discovery request is limited by means of a network hop count.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for an OBEX object-exchange client to discover an accessible OBEX object-exchange resource on a network incorporating routable communications protocols, the method comprising:

listening on a multicast channel provided according to a routable network communications protocol for an identification advertisement from an OBEX device object-exchange resource identification advertisement;

receiving at least one advertisement on the multicast channel identifying an accessible OBEX device object-exchange resource;

storing information from the received advertisement; and

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using the stored information to access the identified OBEX device object-exchange resource.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for an OBEX object-exchange resource to make its accessibility known, the method comprising:

formulating an OBEX device object-exchange resource identification advertisement; and
sending the OBEX device advertisement on a multicast channel provided according to a routable network communications protocol.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the multicast channel is carried on a well-known port provided according to the routable network communications protocol.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the OBEX device object-exchange resource identification advertisement is carried according to a protocol in the set: the Simple Service Discovery Protocol, the Service Location Protocol.

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20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the OBEX
device object-exchange resource identification advertisement contains
information expressed according to an extensible markup language definition.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the OBEX
device object-exchange resource is in the group: an OBEX object-exchange
server, an OBEX object-exchange service, an OBEX object-exchange client.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the OBEX
device object-exchange resource is an OBEX object-exchange server and the
OBEX device object-exchange resource identification advertisement lists OBEX
object-exchange services provided by the OBEX object-exchange server.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the OBEX
device object-exchange resource is an OBEX object-exchange service in the
group: inbox service, file browser, and synchronization service.

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24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17 further comprising:
- listening on the multicast channel for a discovery request asking OBEX object-exchange resources to identify themselves; and
 - sending an OBEX object-exchange resource identification advertisement in response to a received discovery request.
25. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for performing a method for an OBEX object-exchange resource to make its accessibility known, the method comprising:
- formulating an OBEX object-exchange resource identification advertisement; and
 - sending the advertisement on a multicast channel provided according to a routable network communications protocol.

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